

TO: Committee on Transportation

DATE: March 23, 2008

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
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HEARING: Monday, March 24, 2008, 10 a.m.

SUBJECT: HCR 300/HR 250 Encouraging Implementation of Federal Transportation Design Guidance

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Aloha Representatives,

Most of you are aware that our neighborhood boards have been considering and passing bicycle safety resolutions. To date, 19 boards have passed a Bicycle Safety Resolution. These resolutions include developing new bikeways and improving existing bikeways. As evidenced by these resolutions, Charter Amendment 8 and various surveys, many people are concerned about bicycle and pedestrian safety.

I have been riding my bike around East Honolulu for almost 20 years, the last 5 of which both of my sons have been riding with me as well. Over the past several years, I have had several occasions to discuss bicycle safety issues with staff people at the Department of Transportation Services. In addition, I have seen projects implemented that include very little consideration for bicyclists, e.g., the Kakaako redevelopment and Le `olani at Hawaii Kai subdivision.

Adoption of the federal Department of Transportation's design guidance recommendations would help Honolulu and outer islands plan for and incorporate safe bicycle and pedestrian usage on our roadways. I support HCH 300/HR 250 and request your support as well.